

Message Text

SECRET

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62

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 AID-05

TRSE-00 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /051 W

----- 036920

R 051045Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2426

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 0835

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, LA

SUBJECT: PAYMENT OF PATHET LAO FORCES BY THE VIENTIANE SIDE

1. IN THE COURSE OF MY TALK WITH GENERAL VANG PAO THIS MORNING, HE EXPRESSED IN THE STRONGEST TERMS HIS DISAGREEMENT WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S RECENT DECISION TO GIVE AN ADVANCE OF 50 MILLION KIP TO THE PATHET LAO FOR THE PAYMENT OF THEIR FORCES WHICH ARE SERVING IN THE JOINT POLICE AND MILITARY CONTINGENTS.

2. GENERAL VANG PAO STATED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS ADVANCE WITH DEFMIN SISOUK AND FINMIN NGON SANANIKONE YESTERDAY AND HAD TOLD THEM THAT IN HIS VIEW THE PRIME MINISTER'S ORDERS TO FINMIN NGON SHOULD BE DISREGARDED. HE SAID THAT OF COURSE MONEY WOULD GO ONLY PARTLY TO PL SOLDIERS. PATHET LAO WOULD USE MOST OF FUND TO FOMENT DEMONSTRATIONS AND DISORDERS. (APPARENTLY SUM BASED ON 15,000 KIP PER MONTH PER SOLDIER WHICH IS TWICE AMOUNT RECEIVED BY FAR SOLDIER. THIS IN ITSELF HAS CAUSED STRONG REACTION AMONG OTHER FAR GENERALS.) IN HIS VIEW, THE PRIME MINISTER HAD BEEN LURED INTO MAKING THIS STUPID DECISION BY PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG AND IT WAS CLEARLY THE INTENT OF THE PATHET LAO TO EXPLOIT THE VIENTIANE SIDE TO THE LIMIT. VANG PAO SAID HE WAS PROCEEDING AT ONCE TO LUANG PRABANG WHERE HE INTENDED TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS VERY FORCEFULLY TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

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WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, PERSONNEL COMPENSATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENTI00835
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750042-0576
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750268/aaaacjog.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAYMENT OF PATHET LAO FORCES BY THE VIENTIANE SIDE
TAGS: MPOL, LA, PATHET LAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006